

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-10 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 SAB-01 IO-10 /110 W

----- 050090

R 021224Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1584

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

UNCLAS BEIRUT 14326

E.O: N/A

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: ELF PRESS CONFERENCE IN BEIRUT

REF: BEIRUT 13669 AND PREVIOUS

1. AT NOV 27 PRESS CONFERENCE AT BEIRUT ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT (ELF) SEC GEN OTHMAN BEN SALEH CALLED FOR US ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST ETHIOPIA "IN THE INTEREST OF PRESERVING PEACE IN THE RED SEA." SALEH ALSO CLAIMED LIBYA BOUGHT AND DELIVERED ARMS WORTH \$2 MILLION TO ELF DURING THE PAST MONTH.

2. DECLARING THAT ELF CONTROLS ERITREAN COUNTRYSIDE AND IS CAPABLE OF "WAGING WAR OF HARASSMENT" AGAINST ETHIOPIA IN ALL MAJOR ERITREAN TOWNS, SALEH BUTRESSED HIS APPEAL FOR' ARMS EMBARGO BY ACCUSING ETHIOPIAN JUNTA OF PLANNING MAJOR OFFENSIVE AGAINST ELF REBELS. ELF FORCES HAVE PUSHED THEIR FRONTLINES TO WITHIN FOUR MILES OF SAMARA, SALEH SAID, AND RECENT OVERTHROW OF GEN. AMAN ADNOM "PUTS THE JUNTA ON A COLLISION COURSE WITH THE ELF."

3. ACCORDING TO SALEH THE DEMISE OF ADNOM MARKED THE UNCLASSIFIED

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DISAPPEARANCE OF ANY RESTRAINING INFLUENCE ON THE PART

OF ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES VIS-A-VIS THE ELF. NOTING  
THERE ONLY EIGHT OFFICERS OF ERITREAN ORIGIN ON  
150-MAN ETHIOPIAN MILITARY COUNCIL, HE ADDED "THOSE  
EIGHT DO NOT REALLY REPRESENT ERITREANS. THEY WERE  
RAISED AND EDUCATED IN ETHIOPIA."  
HOUGHTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES, ARMS EMBARGO  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BEIRUT14326  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740348-0945  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741269/aaaacgxy.tel  
**Line Count:** 67  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** BEIRUT 13669 AND PREVIOUS  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ELF PRESS CONFERENCE IN BEIRUT  
**TAGS:** PINS, ET, US, (SALEH, OTHMAN BEN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005